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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/576,031	04/13/2006	**Franck Roland**	6003.1049	2192

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EXAMINER	
CULLER, JILL E	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2854	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
11/03/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/576,031	ROLAND, FRANCK	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	JILL E. CULLER	2854	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *27 June 2008*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *11-23* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *11-23* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *13 April 2006* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

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2. Claims 11-13, 15-16 and 18-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,282,419 to Barrois in view of GB 2314292 to Edogaa et al.

With respect to claim 11, Barrois teaches an inking roller, 1, for an inking unit of an offset printing press comprising: a plurality of zones arranged in a direction of an axis of rotation and at least one ink reservoir, 10, in an interior of the inking roller, the at least one ink reservoir in each of the plurality of zones is connected to at least one ink exit in a circumferential surface of the inking roller, the inking roller being an offset printing press inking roller. See column 3, line 54 - column 4, line 14 and Figs. 2-3.

Barrois does not teach that the inking roller has at least one pumping element assigned to each zone in the interior of the inking roller, the pumping element for conveying ink from the ink reservoir to the circumferential surface.

Edogaa et al. teaches an inking roller, 1, comprising: a plurality of zones, 5, arranged in a direction of an axis of rotation; and at least one ink reservoir, 8, in an interior of the inking roller, the at least one ink reservoir in each of the plurality of zones

is connected to at least one ink exit, 6, in a circumferential surface of the inking roller; the inking roller having at least one pumping element, 7, assigned to each zone in the interior of the inking roller; the pumping element for conveying ink from the ink reservoir to the circumferential surface. See page 5, lines 1-15 and Figs. 1-2.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the apparatus of Barrois to include a plurality of pumping elements, as taught by Edogaa et al., in order to be able to deliver the ink to specific locations on the surface.

With respect to claim 12, Edogaa et al. teaches the pumping element is an electrical pump or a pneumatic pump. See page 5, lines 8-15.

With respect to claim 13, Edogaa et al. teaches the ink exit is an opening or a porous piece of material. See page 5, lines 1-6.

With respect to claim 15, Edogaa et al. teaches an ink duct, 20, with a rotary seal, wherein the ink duct substantially extends along the axis of rotation of the inking roller into the interior of the inking roller to the at least one ink reservoir. See page 6, lines 1-2 and Fig. 2.

With respect to claim 16, Edogaa et al. teaches the pumping element is powered by a rotary electrical connection. See page 5, lines 8-15.

With respect to claim 18, Edogaa et al. teaches that each pumping element is controllable independently of the other pumping elements. See page 5, lines 17-26.

With respect to claims 19-20, Barrois teaches an offset printing unit comprising at least one inking unit comprising at least one inking roller. See column 3, line 54 - column 4, line 14.

With respect to claims 21-23, Barrois teaches the circumferential surface of the inking roller rolls on another inking roller, wherein the other inking roller is a beginning of a group of further inking rollers that roll on each other such that the group of rollers is adapted to apply ink to a printing master on a printing master cylinder connected to an end of the group of inking unit rollers. See column 3, line 54 - column 4, line 14 and Figs. 2-3.

3. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barrois in view of Edogaa et al. as applied to claims 11-13, 15-16 and 18-23 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,738,269 to Wagner.

Barrois and Edogaa et al. teach all that is claimed, as in the above rejection of claims 11-13, 15-16 and 18-23, except that the ink exit includes a perforated plug.

Wagner teaches an inking roller, 20, having an ink exit that includes a perforated material, 24. See column 2, lines 6-16.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to further modify the apparatus of Barrois to have the perforated plug, as taught by Wagner, in order to more smoothly distribute the ink on the surface of the roller.

4. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barrois in view of Edogaa et al. as applied to claims 11-13, 15-16 and 18-23 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,036,761 to Wingo.

Barrois and Edogaa et al. teach all that is claimed, as in the above rejection of claims 11-13, 15-16 and 18-23, except that the at least one ink exit includes a number of ink exits present in one zone, the ink exits being located in a circumferential direction either in one angular section of a circumference in an accumulative way or distributed in a substantially even manner.

Wingo teaches an inking roller having a number of ink exits present in one zone, the ink exits being located in a circumferential direction either in one angular section of a circumference in an accumulative way or distributed in a substantially even manner. See column 4, line 58 - column 5, line 24 and Fig. 5.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to further modify the apparatus of Barrios to include the plurality of exits in a plurality of zones, as taught by Wingo, in order to more evenly distribute the ink on the surface of the roller.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JILL E. CULLER whose telephone number is (571)272-2159. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 10:00-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-2258. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

jec

/Jill E. Culler/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2854